

REMARKS

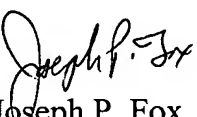
Claims 1-4 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Okamoto et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0050732). In response, Applicants incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 6 into claim 1, and therefore request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims. Since this amendment places the case into condition for allowance or better form for appeal, and no new issues are raised requiring further search and/or consideration, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment as a matter of right, and allowance of claims 1-5 and 16-17.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By


Joseph P. Fox
Registration No. 41,760

June 5, 2006

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.360.0080
Facsimile: 312.360.9315
Customer No. 24978